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Chair: Mr. Rosenthal ..... (Guatemala)
Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: Mr. Kelapile

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Organization of work (A/C.5/65/L.26)

1. **The Chair** invited the Committee to consider the proposed programme of work for the first part of the resumed sixty-fifth session, prepared on the basis of the note by the Secretariat on the status of preparedness of documentation (A/C.5/65/L.26).

2. **Ms. Melon** (Argentina), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the Group commended the Bureau for preparing a balanced programme of work, which should be adjusted throughout the session to reflect the progress made in the Committee's negotiations. The Group attached great importance to the items contained in the programme of work and trusted that adequate time would be allocated to their consideration. Concerning the status of documentation, the Group noted with concern that some reports had again been issued late, which hampered the smooth functioning of the Committee. It appreciated the updates received through the Bureau in that regard.

3. **Mr. Körösi** (Hungary), speaking on behalf of the European Union; the candidate countries Croatia, Iceland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the stabilization and association process countries Albania and Serbia; and, in addition, Armenia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, said that the European Union welcomed the Bureau's decision to plan for completion of the Committee's work at the current part of the resumed session in three weeks. Furthermore, it appreciated the constructive efforts and flexibility shown by all Member States at the main part of the sixty-fifth session, which had allowed consensus to be reached on vital matters. In particular, it was pleased that the Committee had succeeded in reducing, to some extent, the additional requirements under the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011, while still providing the Organization with the necessary resources to fulfil its mandates. In the current difficult financial climate, it was important to ensure that the Organization used all its resources as effectively and efficiently as possible and applied the same strict budgetary discipline as Member States. The European Union therefore called on the Secretary-General to exert his leadership in prioritizing funding requests and identifying areas for savings. The Secretariat should closely scrutinize recurrent expenditure and go beyond incremental budgeting.

4. The European Union welcomed the progress made towards the timely submission of all documents in all official languages, which was of crucial importance for the Committee's work. It encouraged the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee to work towards achieving that goal in both parts of the resumed session.

5. **Mr. Coffi** (Côte d'Ivoire), speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, said that the Group attached great importance to all the items in the programme of work and trusted that there would be ample time for a thorough discussion on each item. While acknowledging the efforts made by all concerned to ensure that most of the documentation for the first part of the resumed session had been issued before the start of its deliberations, the Group called on the Secretariat to intensify its efforts to issue documents in a timely manner.

6. **Ms. Pakarati** (Chile), speaking on behalf of the Rio Group, said that the Group was deeply concerned at the anticipated delays in meeting the deadlines set for the capital master plan. It was also concerned that those delays, together with high associated costs, might be used to justify requesting more resources, when the project already represented a major financial sacrifice for all Member States. It therefore urged the Secretariat to do everything possible to keep to the budget and the deadlines originally approved. The Group also wished to announce that it would be requesting a space dedicated to Latin America in one of the public areas of the United Nations Headquarters complex, on the understanding that all Member States should have a place where the history, art and culture of their peoples could be displayed. The Group, recalling that the capital master plan had originally included a commitment to facilitate access for persons with disabilities within the renovated building, appealed for full observance of that principle.

7. The Group had supported the principles and values of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance from the outset. It would therefore participate actively in the negotiations on revised estimates relating to the Committee on Enforced Disappearances established pursuant to the Convention.

8. With regard to standards of accommodation for air travel, the Group urged the Secretariat to ensure that the resources approved for the item were used as efficiently as possible, avoiding unnecessary expenditure and exploring ways of achieving savings.

9. **Mr. Melrose** (United States of America) said that, while his delegation acknowledged the significant progress that had been made in implementing the capital master plan project, it remained concerned that the current projected cost was $1,956.8 million, or $80.1 million above the approved budget, and looked forward to learning more about planned efficiencies to offset the shortfall. It also shared the Advisory Committee's concerns that there might be difficulty in absorbing the associated costs in the approved budget of the capital master plan and looked forward to learning how the Secretary-General planned to mitigate that risk and possibly reduce costs.

10. His delegation wished to discuss, in informal consultations, the rising costs and increasing number of exceptions approved by the Secretary-General to permit business class travel in special circumstances. It would also like to hear the Secretariat's comments on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) on travel arrangements within the United Nations system. With regard to the revised estimates resulting from the entry into force of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, more information was sought on the posts required and the implications for the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013.

11. His delegation continued to recognize the importance of the Organization's peacebuilding efforts in Burundi and looked forward to an orderly transition from the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi (BINUB) to the United Nations Office in Burundi (BNUB), established pursuant to Security Council resolution 1959 (2010). It would work with other delegations to ensure that BNUB was properly configured and adequately resourced to fulfil its mandate.

12. With regard to the conditions of service and compensation for full-time members of the International Civil Service Commission and the Chairman of the Advisory Committee, while his delegation recognized that those officials should be appropriately compensated for the essential services they provided to the Organization and that their compensation had not kept pace with that of the most senior Secretariat officials, it was also aware that civil servants in many Member States, including the United States, were experiencing pay freezes or reductions in the current fiscal crisis. It would therefore seek to work with other delegations to define an equitable compensation package that was appropriate for the current fiscal environment.

13. Lastly, while his delegation welcomed the completion of 10 reports by JIU in 2010, it remained concerned at the low rate of implementation of many recommendations from previous reports, which raised fundamental questions about the effectiveness and usefulness of the Unit in its current form. In that regard, it should be noted that the report of JIU for 2010 and programme of work for 2011 (A/65/34) raised the issue not only of additional resources but also of possible reform of the Unit.

14. It was clearly in the interests of the whole international community that the Organization should provide the greatest possible return on Member States' investment as it worked to implement the mandates they had entrusted to it. His delegation therefore remained committed to working constructively with other Member States to reach consensus on programmes that were prudent and responsible as well as responsive to the Organization's needs.

15. **The Chair** said he took it that the Committee wished to approve the proposed programme of work, on the understanding that it would be adjusted by the Bureau as necessary during the course of the session.

16. *It was so decided.*

Agenda item 113: Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments (*continued*)

(b) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions (*continued*) (A/65/102/Rev.1/Add.1)

17. **The Chair** drew attention to the note by the Secretary-General (A/65/102/Rev.1/Add.1) informing the General Assembly of the resignations of Mr. Richard Moon (United Kingdom) and of Mr. Wu Gang (China) from the Committee on Contributions and requesting the General Assembly to appoint two persons to fill the vacancies for the remaining period of the terms of office, which would both expire on 31 December 2011.

18. The Government of the United Kingdom had nominated Mr. Patrick Haughey, whose candidature had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and other States, to fill the unexpired portion of Mr. Moon's term of office and the Government of China had nominated Mr. Sun Xudong, whose candidature had been endorsed by the Group of Asian States, to fill the unexpired portion of Mr. Wu's term of office.

19. *The Committee decided, by acclamation, to recommend to the General Assembly the appointment of Mr. Haughey (United Kingdom) and Mr. Sun (China) to membership of the Committee on Contributions for a term of office beginning on the date of their appointment and expiring on 31 December 2011.*

Agenda item 135: Joint Inspection Unit (A/65/34 and A/65/718)

20. **Mr. Zahran** (Chair, Joint Inspection Unit), introducing the report of JIU for 2010 and programme of work for 2011 (A/65/34), said that the Unit was grateful for the support that the Committee had provided to it since its inception, without which it would not have been able to effectively implement its mandate as the only independent external oversight body of the United Nations system. The Unit's programme of work for 2010 had fully complied with the required focus on system-wide issues, with 8 out of 10 projects dealing with system-wide topics. By the end of 2010, it had issued 10 reports and one management letter, addressed to the legislative bodies and executive heads of participating organizations for action. The programme of work for 2011 contained 11 projects, of which 10 were system-wide and 1 was a review of management and administration in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. A management and administration review of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) had also been carried over from 2010.

21. With regard to the debate over the possible establishment of an additional system-wide independent evaluation mechanism, in which the Unit had again become embroiled, it should be recalled that the General Assembly, in its resolution 64/289, had affirmed that the establishment of such a mechanism within the United Nations system should be aimed at fully utilizing and strengthening the existing institutional framework and capacities, including JIU. In that connection, it should be noted that the Unit had made significant efforts in recent years to enhance its effectiveness, including through its strategic framework for 2010-2019. However, achieving greater effectiveness also depended on Member States giving due attention to the Unit's reports and recommendations, and providing the Unit with adequate resources.

22. The inspectors noted with concern an increasing trend for legislative bodies not to fully consider and discuss JIU reports or act upon the recommendations addressed to them. In many cases, United Nations bodies merely took note of reports, while some participating organizations tended to review several reports within a brief time slot, which did not allow for in-depth discussion or decision-making. Such lack of action undermined the value added and impact of the Unit's contributions to enhance efficiency, effectiveness and system-wide coherence and cooperation. The Unit looked forward to working closely with Member States in the coming years to address that situation. In particular, the General Assembly-mandated web-based follow-up system, in respect of which a feasibility study had already been completed, should facilitate knowledge management and action on the Unit's recommendations by Member States and participating organizations. Full funding would, however, be required in order for that project to become operational in 2011.

23. The Unit's proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013, which would be considered later in the year, was slightly higher than the previous approved budget, because it reflected additional requirements for implementation of the strategic framework for 2010-2019. There had been no significant increase in the Unit's resources for decades, which meant that it had been unable to provide the full coverage requested by Member States. JIU trusted that, at a time when effective system-wide oversight was more necessary than ever, it would be provided with the necessary resources to be able to fulfil its mandate.

24. **Mr. Herman** (United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination), introducing the note by the Secretary-General on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2010 (A/65/718), said that the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) remained dedicated to assisting JIU in the performance of its critical function. As a result of the Unit's increasing focus on system-wide

issues, close collaboration between the two bodies had become the norm. CEB had continued to assist JIU in identifying topics that the Unit might consider adding to its programme of work for the year. CEB also continued to work closely with JIU in the preparation of its reports, including by facilitating input from other organizations, while the CEB secretariat increasingly worked with the Unit's inspectors during the preparation of draft reports, in order to ensure a more comprehensive and agreed outcome.

25. Furthermore, CEB had sought to produce its companion reports to the Unit's system-wide reports more rapidly. It had taken steps to ensure that it received the Unit's reports shortly after their issuance, and had urged organizations to provide their comments in a more timely manner. The high-level committees of CEB continued to discuss the issue of closer coordination between member organizations and JIU, while the CEB secretariat continued to call on organizations to ensure a good information flow between themselves and JIU and to coordinate action on the Unit's recommendations and programme of work. Such actions, in addition to increased informal contacts, had markedly improved cooperation between the Unit and CEB.

26. **Mr. Di Luca** (Argentina), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the Group attached great importance to the work of JIU as the only independent external oversight body of the United Nations system and was encouraged to note the continued improvement in the Unit's working methods. It was a matter of concern that the JIU strategic framework for 2010-2019 had not received the required increase in resources and thus had not been implemented in 2010. The Group would be seeking clarification from the Controller in that regard.

27. The Group appreciated the Unit's efforts to focus on system-wide issues in 2010, and agreed that that implied a much more demanding programme in terms of resources. Furthermore, it noted with concern the limited progress seen in 2010 concerning the uptake of JIU recommendations by Member States. All legislative organs should fully consider and discuss JIU reports and the responsible secretariat entities should ensure the timely implementation of those recommendations that had been accepted. In that connection, the Group fully supported the prompt implementation of the General Assembly-mandated web-based follow-up system.

28. The Group was pleased to note that JIU continued to cooperate actively with other oversight bodies, such as the Board of Auditors and the Office of Internal Oversight Services. It welcomed the programme of work for 2011.

29. **Mr. Coffi** (Côte d'Ivoire), speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, said the Group noted with satisfaction that JIU had successfully carried out most of its programme of work for 2010, particularly in respect of the issuance of high-quality reports and management letters to the legislative bodies and executive heads of participating organizations. The Group, however, was concerned that the Unit had been unable to implement fully the expected medium-term accomplishments of its strategic framework for 2010-2019, which foresaw an increased number of management and administrative reviews. It also regretted that the Unit had not yet been provided with the resources required for its work.

30. JIU was encouraged to continue its cooperation with other oversight bodies, and its dialogue with CEB. The Unit should also be fully involved in any evaluation exercise in connection with system-wide coherence, in view of the importance of strengthening the capacity for system-wide evaluation.

31. The Group was concerned that JIU had encountered some difficulties in obtaining information and data from the Secretariat required for the preparation of its report on transparency of the process for selecting and appointing senior managers in the United Nations Secretariat, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/259, and would seek additional information in that regard. It would also request further information on the progress made in the establishment of the web-based follow-up system and on the availability of the additional resources required to ensure that the system was operational by the end of 2011.

32. The Group noted the Unit's concern that an increasing number of legislative organs did not consider and discuss its reports, and therefore failed to act on the recommendations addressed to them. The Group intended to address that concern in informal consultations.

33. Lastly, the Group stressed the importance of providing JIU with the resources it required to fulfil its mandate and carry out its programme of work for 2011.

34. **Mr. Melrose** (United States of America) said that the Unit's reports on ethics, enterprise risk-management, internal audit and international public sector accounting standards represented important contributions to those subjects and responded to the Committee's repeated requests that JIU should focus on issues of system-wide relevance. Although his delegation did not wish the Unit to discontinue its single-agency reports, such reports should focus on producing recommendations and conclusions that were pragmatic and could be put into effect.

35. His delegation welcomed the Unit's efforts to provide greater and more detailed information on the status of its recommendations, thereby enabling Member States to have a better understanding of the challenges facing JIU. In that connection, his delegation welcomed the completion of the feasibility study on a web-based system to monitor the status of recommendations and receive updates from participating organizations, and looked forward to the system's implementation.

36. Although his Government had taken note of the explanation offered by JIU regarding the low overall rate of approval and acceptance of its recommendations, it wondered whether the recommendations were specific enough to implement.

37. With regard to the programme of work for 2011, his delegation wondered whether the proposed evaluations of sick leave and staff-management relations, which were human resources issues, would be the best use of the Unit's resources. The International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) was better placed to carry out such evaluations, and referring those issues back to the Commission would avoid duplication of effort.

38. Turning to the question of the Unit's role in responding to the General Assembly's request to the Secretary-General to make recommendations on the establishment of a system-wide evaluation mechanism and on the evaluation of the "delivering as one" pilots, set out in Assembly resolution 63/311, he said that the request raised important and complex issues not only for the General Assembly, but also for JIU. A central issue was whether and to what extent JIU could or should perform such a function. If it were to take on such a responsibility, the Unit would have to be strengthened, as acknowledged in its report. His delegation believed that JIU should focus its efforts on reforming itself and increasing its effectiveness.

39. **Mr. Park** Chull-joo (Republic of Korea) said that adequate implementation of JIU recommendations was vital to improving the functioning of the participating organizations. His delegation was therefore concerned by organizations' failure to implement the Unit's recommendations and by the overall decrease in the implementation rate of system-wide recommendations in the period 2007-2009.

40. The practice of some secretariats of presenting JIU reports to the governing body, together with a document stating the views of the executive head on recommendations made, as well as information on what the secretariat of the participating organization intended to do should be followed by all in order to address the problem of low implementation. His delegation also believed that the web-based tracking system should be operational as soon as possible. To that end, approving the required funding should be one of the General Assembly's top priorities.

41. His delegation welcomed the increasing level of interaction between the oversight bodies. Greater information-sharing and coordination would help such bodies not only avoid duplication of efforts, but also to achieve further synergy and cooperation.

42. Lastly, his delegation recognized the increasing complexity of system-wide evaluations and agreed that it was necessary to introduce a more competitive process for the selection of inspectors. A more thorough and critical screening process, based on professional experience, would strengthen the authority and the value of the Unit.

Agenda item 129: Programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011 (*continued*)

Standards of accommodation for air travel (A/65/338 and Add.1, A/65/348, A/65/386 and A/65/632)

43. **Mr. Baez** (Chief, Policy and Oversight Coordination Service), introducing the Secretary-General's report on standards of accommodation for air travel (A/65/348), said that the report provided detailed information on the exceptions authorized by the Secretary-General to the standards normally applicable under the regulations and rules of the Organization. Tables in the report provided a comparison of the

number of trips made in first and business classes for the periods 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2010 and 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2008, for both the United Nations and other United Nations entities.

44. Overall, there had been an increase in the number of exceptions granted in the period under consideration as compared to the previous period, mainly owing to exceptions made for medical reasons, persons donating services free of charge and travel by security officers. The Secretariat would continue to monitor the granting of exceptions closely.

45. **Mr. Kelapile** (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), introducing the Advisory Committee's related report (A/65/632), said that the Advisory Committee had been informed that the cost of administering an organizational frequent flyer programme would exceed its benefits, and that those commercial airlines contacted by the Secretariat with regard to the possible use of frequent flyer miles under a United Nations account had instead been more receptive to offering discounts on air tickets.

46. The Advisory Committee noted the difficulties that had been identified by JIU and the Secretary-General with regard to the consolidation and administration of organizational frequent flyer miles. However, it believed that the issue should be kept under review and encouraged the United Nations and its entities to continue to explore other ways to reduce overall travel expenditures.

47. **Mr. Zahran** (Chair, Joint Inspection Unit), introducing the Unit's report on travel arrangements within the United Nations system contained in the note by the Secretary-General (A/65/338), said that, after staff costs, travel represented one of the largest shares of United Nations system organizations' budgets. International organizations had purchased approximately $1.1 billion of airline tickets in 2008. That figure was a conservative estimate, for while it included both official and statutory travel, it did not take into consideration tickets purchased for peacekeeping operations or those under the lump-sum options available to eligible staff members.

48. The increase in the number of organizations that had attended the annual meeting of the Inter-Agency Travel Network (IATN) in 2010 as compared to 2009 demonstrated the importance given to travel in the United Nations system. That increase could possibly be attributed to the Unit's recommendation that organizations' executive heads should support IATN activities by attending and participating in its annual meetings. The Unit was pleased that, in September 2010, the Network had decided to adopt the Unit's terms of reference. It further believed that greater prominence needed to be given to the role of IATN as an advisory board on travel issues.

49. Different models for procurement of travel services existed within the common United Nations system. No single model was strictly applicable to all organizations, given the complexities of travel arrangements. However, the experiences of certain organizations confirmed that an international organization could cut travel costs considerably by either establishing its own travel agency or purchasing tickets directly from airlines. Other measures to reduce costs included adherence to advance travel planning, expanding lump-sum options, entering into joint airline negotiations, offering staff incentives and streamlining travel claims processing.

50. JIU strongly believed that executive heads should not only provide reports on travel expenditures by reporting period to the governing bodies, but also inform them of steps taken to rationalize travel costs. To that end, IATN should establish benchmarks for reporting purposes; those benchmarks could then be incorporated into existing or planned enterprise resource planning systems.

51. **Mr. Herman** (United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination), introducing the report of CEB on the feasibility of harmonizing standards of air travel (A/65/386), said that travel policies across the United Nations system had been the focus of several reports over the years, prepared both by JIU and the Secretary-General in his capacity as Chairman of CEB. Those reports had reviewed the standards of travel and entitlements for staff members, members of organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and organizations of the United Nations system, with a view to adopting a common policy at the United Nations system level.

52. In 2010, the secretariat of CEB, responding to the request made by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/238, had reviewed the status of harmonization of travel policies among the United Nations Secretariat and funds and programmes, as those entities fell directly under the purview of the Secretary-General.

The resulting report revealed that, for many aspects of travel, the funds and programmes already implemented the standard used at the Secretariat. That was particularly the case with regard to the standards in place for air travel and terminal expenses. Although some variation had been found in respect of lump-sum payments, policies in that regard were generally uniform throughout the system.

53. The report further revealed that entities under the authority of the Secretary-General had already achieved a significant degree of harmonization of travel policies. However, greater harmonization could be achieved. To that end, the General Assembly might wish to call upon the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the funds and programmes to continue harmonizing travel policies and practices, especially through IATN, and to participate in, and fully support, IATN.

54. Introducing the note by the Secretary-General conveying his comments and those of CEB members concerning the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on travel arrangements within the United Nations system (A/65/338/Add.1), he said that some agencies of the United Nations system had suggested that portions of the Unit's report, which had been transmitted to the General Assembly in a note by the Secretary-General (A/65/338), could have been improved through a more rigorous and detailed financial analysis. Such an analysis would have enabled the agencies to have a fuller understanding of the basis for any proposed improvements in operating methodologies. Nonetheless, they had found that the report's recommendations were practical and sensible, and merited further consideration.

55. While agencies generally had accepted the obligation set out in recommendation 9 of the report concerning reporting of travel expenses by reporting period and had supported the need to report on an item as critical and costly as travel, they had expressed concern that such reporting might blur the distinction between the functions of governance and management. Rather than prescribing a travel-monitoring system as an ongoing part of the governance process, agencies had suggested that the recommendations should focus on the process of budgetary deliberations and approval. The agencies had also noted the importance of establishing clear and common benchmarks for such reports given that travel encompassed many variables, which could complicate comparisons.

56. **Mr. Di Luca** (Argentina), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that, although the air travel requirements of the United Nations were complex, there was a need for continued and enhanced accountability. Further efforts should be made to harmonize practices across the system, wherever possible. The Group found the report to be somewhat lacking in clarity and completeness of information and would therefore seek clarification in informal discussions on that agenda item.

Revised estimates resulting from the entry into force of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (A/65/628 and A/65/739)

57. **Ms. Van Buerle** (Director, Programme Planning and Budget Division), introducing the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates resulting from the entry into force of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (A/65/628), said that, in accordance with its article 39 (1), the Convention had entered into force on 23 December 2010. In paragraph 23.39 of the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011 (A/64/6 (Sect. 23)), the Secretary-General had informed the General Assembly that, should the Convention enter into force during the biennium 2010-2011, the Committee on Enforced Disappearances would be established in accordance with article 26 of the Convention and that Member States would be informed of the budgetary implications in accordance with established procedures.

58. Accordingly, the expenditure requirements arising from the entry into force of the Convention were estimated at an amount of $868,400 (gross) for the biennium 2010-2011. It was proposed to meet those requirements under the provisions of the contingency fund for 2010-2011. The detailed requirements under each section of the budget were set out in Part II, sections A through D, of the report.

59. It was estimated that, should the additional requirements, as proposed, be approved for the biennium 2010-2011, additional requirements for the biennium 2012-2013, estimated at $7,537,900 (net), would be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013.

60. The actions requested of the General Assembly were set out in paragraphs 39 and 40 of the report.

61. **Mr. Kelapile** (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), introducing the Advisory Committee's related report (A/65/739), said that the Advisory Committee recommended that the additional resource requirements arising from the entry into force of the Convention should be met from within the available resources for the biennium 2010-2011. The Secretary-General should be requested to report, as necessary, within the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011.

62. The Advisory Committee further recommended that the General Assembly should approve the establishment of one P-4 post and one General Service (Other level) post under section 23, Human rights. The related resources should be adjusted to take into account the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, with effect from 1 April 2011, instead of 1 January 2011.

63. The approval by the General Assembly of the proposals relating to the biennium 2010-2011 should not in any way prejudge the full justification of envisaged additional requirements in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013.

64. **Mr. Di Luca** (Argentina), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the Group believed it was crucial to allocate the resources required for the proper discharge of the functions and conduct of the activities related to the Convention, including the resources required to establish the Committee on Enforced Disappearances. Although the Group saw merit in the Advisory Committee's recommendations, it would seek further clarification from the Secretariat regarding the proposed absorption level.

65. The Group wished to draw the attention of the Committee to paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 65/204, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its sixty-sixth session proposals to improve the effectiveness of the human rights treaty bodies and to identify efficiencies in their working methods and resource requirements to enable them to better manage their workloads, bearing in mind budgetary constraints and taking account of the varying burdens on each treaty body. In that connection, he recalled that the Fifth Committee was the Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters, and said that the report requested in the resolution should be submitted to the Fifth Committee.

The meeting rose at 12.02 p.m.